

ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

Edited and Published by B. Homans, at \$5 a year, payable in advance.

VOL. X.—No. 10.]

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1840.

[WHOLE No. 270.]

MISCELLANY.

COMPARATIVE EFFICIENCY OF THE ENGLISH, AMERICAN, AND FRENCH NAVIES.—At this time, when writers of various dimensions and calibre of our own country have freely and patriotically shed their best ink in exposing the deficiencies of our maritime service, (doubtless with a view to their remedy,) it may be worth while, as a matter of curiosity, and I think as something more, to become acquainted with some of the recorded opinions of contemporary writers in other countries, when speaking of their own navy. I therefore send you extracts from an essay by a French Naval officer, M. de Lesespinnasse, entitled *Etudes sur la Marine Militaire*, and contained in No. 78, vol. 23, of the *Journal des Sciences Militaires, des Armées de Ter et de Mer*, for 1839. "I beg my colleagues will not be angry with me if, for the sake of my country, I draw aside the veil with which they wish to hide certain truths; and to ask them if, in soul and conscience, they believe that an equal number of our ships, taken at hazard from our anchorages, would be able to contend victoriously against as many English or Americans? This question was put to me during our late disputes with the latter power, in a low voice, by an officer of very great observation. My reply was, 'I think as you, but it is too late to speak of it.'—(Page 329.) And my young comrades will be wrong if they think I exaggerate the evil. I know well enough that we have three or four large vessels, perfectly equipped, and most admirably manœuvred; I know also there are a certain number tolerable; but how often do we witness as bad navigation as is usual in merchant ships? The persons of the crew slovenly, their hair uncombed, and so filled with bad company, that one may suppose the Government does not furnish very liberally materials for their toilet. However, to console the vanity of my colleagues, I will add that I do not believe it possible either for the English, notwithstanding their insuperable pride, or for the Americans, in spite of their English solemnity and their French vanity, to endure a meeting with one of our ships of the *élite*, properly brought into action. I had an opportunity to form an estimate of three frigates, singularly brought together: The Java, 58, for the United States; the Madagascar, 50, Captain Lyons, for England; and the Fleur de Lys, 44, Captain Lalande, for France. If an action had taken place between these, I would have made an even bet on the Fleur de Lys, notwithstanding her inferiority; and two to one in her favor should the combat have been decided by boarding, that the French crew would have eaten up the two others.—(Page 330.)—*Hunt's paper.*

FRENCH MILITARY PREPARATIONS.—"The greatest activity," says the Capitole, "prevails in the offices of the war department. The *employés* are kept working day and night. The officers and soldiers on furlough have been ordered to return without delay to their respective regiments. To what cause must such measures be ascribed? Is it to the organization of the army of Africa, or the bad spirit existing among the troops? Have we not also some apprehensions for our son-in-law of Belgium, who is believed to have openly declared to his relatives that every thing was prepared for a restoration in his small kingdom?" Independently of the 3,000 cavalry which are to be embarked in the merchant vessels freighted for Africa, 670 more are to be shipped immediately at Port Vendres, for the same destination. Two squadrons of the 1st regiment of Chasseurs were to have arrived on the 18th at Perpignan, on their way to Port Vendres,

and two more of the 9th Chasseurs and 5th Hussars, each of 160 men, were shortly to arrive in Narbonne and Carcassonne, where they were to remain until every thing was ready for their embarkation. The 5th, 13th, 25th, 36th, 37th, and 38th regiments of infantry of the line, and the 9th, 16th, and 21st light infantry, were each to furnish 300 men, who were to be all landed at Algiers towards the middle of January next. A battery of mountain artillery, in garrison at Valencia, had been directed to leave for Toulon, and 56 men of the 10th regiment quitted Bourges on the 17th, to join the two batteries of the same regiment in Africa.

From the United Service Journal.

DEPUTY INSPECTOR-GENERAL MARSHALL ON THE ENLISTING, DISCHARGING, AND PENSIONING SOLDIERS.—In our October number we entered fully on a portion of this valuable work, which referred to the recruiting of the army. We shall now notice the subject of discharging, but regret that time and space force us to confine our observations within very narrow limits.

The duty of recommending for discharge obviously requires the strictest attention on the part of medical officers, in order to render justice to the service and the public; but, till of late years, it has been so much neglected, as to admit of imposition, in every possible shape, being successfully practised by malingerers. Had the same care been taken in this respect prior to 1830, as since that period, the army would not now have to mourn over the reduction of pensions for long and faithful service; and it should ever be borne in mind, both by medical and commanding officers, that as the public cannot long afford to pay for both, every pension obtained by a malingerer is ultimately at the cost of the deserving soldier.

To all who have either medical or military charge of troops, we strongly recommend the perusal of the various cases of fraud detailed by Mr. Marshall, in this portion of his work, as the best means of preventing their becoming the dupes of similar imposition. Want of space prevents our quoting at length some of the amusing instances given in this volume; but the following enumeration of the means generally employed in simulating disabilities may serve to put officers on their guard against such practices.

Ophthalmia.—This disease is generally induced by introducing into the eye lime, corrosive sublimate, snuff, tobacco ashes, or gonorrhœal matter: a small piece of cloth has also sometimes been detected under the eye-lid.

Cataract.—This disease has repeatedly been produced by inserting a sharp needle into the cornea: a small table-fork has also been used for that purpose.

Impaired Vision.—The appearance of partial blindness has been induced by passing a small hair-pencil, dipped in a strong solution of nitrate of silver over the eye-ball.

Amaurosis.—This paralytic affection of the organ of vision has sometimes been simulated, so as to give the appearance of partial or total blindness, by the use of snuff moistened with a decoction of the *Atropa Belladonna*, which has the effect of dilating the pupil of the eye to a great extent.

Consumption.—This is a disease very frequently feigned. The emaciation is produced by abstinence and drinking vinegar. The expectoration is obtained from the spitting pot of a patient really laboring under the disease. Sometimes the saliva is mixed with blood, by pricking the gums, and the circulation is deranged by drugs, to produce the symptoms of hectic fever.

Spitting of Blood.—This is sometimes simulated by placing bullock's blood in the mouth, to color the saliva, on a favorable opportunity. Sometimes an incision has been made in the mouth or arms for the same purpose.

Disease of the Heart.—This disease has been simulated to a great extent in the army. The means employed are the introduction of garlic or tobacco into the anus, which deranges the circulation. *Veratrum album*, in doses of from ten to twelve grains, is used for the same purpose. Palpitation may also be induced by wearing a very tight bandage round the abdomen.

Varicose Veins—may easily be induced or aggravated by means of tight ligatures round the limb; a practice which we believe is carried to a great extent in the army.

Physconia or enlarged Belly.—This disease may be simulated by drinking quantities of vinegar mixed with chalk. In the East Indies a similar effect has been produced by drinking fermented toddy and rice-water, to which a portion of soap has been added.

Dysentery.—This disease has occasionally been feigned by mixing bullock's blood with the dejections, or obtaining those of a patient really laboring under the disease.

Hernia.—This disease has, under an unsuspecting surgeon, been successfully simulated, by means which are detailed in the work.

Ulcers.—These are easily excited or aggravated by means of nitric acid, acetate of copper, yellow arsenic, quick-lime, bruised garlic, &c.

Swelled Leg.—This disease, with all the appearance of elephantiasis, has been induced by a bandage worn tightly round the upper part of the thigh, the use of which in one instance increased the dimensions of the instep from nine to fourteen inches, without any suspicion being entertained of the means employed.

Cachexia and general Bad Health.—This has been simulated by the constant use of nauseating medicines, particularly tartar emetic, abstinence from sleep, and other means likely to lower the system.

In addition to these are numerous other feigned disabilities in which the success of malingerers depends more upon an obstinate determination not to give in, and a close simulation of the symptoms of other patients whom they have observed under treatment, than the aid of drugs or any mechanical means. Among the principal of these disabilities may be enumerated—deafness, paralysis, epilepsy, madness, lameness, incontinence of urine, contractions, rheumatic affections, &c.

The proportion pensioned for these disabilities is very great. Indeed, judging by observations among the civil population at home and in the colonies, it is vastly beyond what can be supposed to occur from the real operation of such diseases; especially when it is kept in view that, having constant medical attendance, and weekly health inspections, every disability with which a soldier is afflicted must come under treatment in the earliest stages, when there exists the greatest probability of it being effectually cured.

Setting aside the encouragement held out to malingering by the prospect of obtaining a pension at an early age, this practice must always be expected to prevail, so long as the soldier is enlisted for life. The extent to which suffering and even mutilation will be borne by men who have no other means of escaping from the service would be almost incredible, but for the well-attested instances in Mr. Marshall's volume. More has been done we believe to check this vice in the army by the grant of free discharges, after certain periods of service, than all the precautions which medical skill could suggest. If this privilege were carried a little farther, so as not to render the prospect of freedom too remote, and were it combined with a careful examination, annually, of every person in receipt of a disability pension, so that no malinge-

rer could hope to retain it, except by the continuance of a system of fraud and deception during his whole lifetime, we feel confident that this vice would speedily be eradicated from the British army, and the bounty of the public be no longer abused, as, in numerous instances, it appears hitherto to have been.

Mr. Marshall concludes with an historical notice of the various pension regulations from the earliest periods to the present day, which we strongly recommend to the perusal of every one interested in a subject of such vital importance to the army.

GERMAN CONFEDERATE ARMY.—The German confederation is divided into different states, or rather the states form a confederation for their mutual protection. Their Diet sits at Frankfort, where each sends an ambassador, and each ambassador has so many votes, according to the size of the state he represents; and this confederation and Diet oblige each state to keep up a standing army of one per cent. of the whole population, and, in case of invasion by a foreign enemy, the whole unite and form nine corps d'armée. The Austrian ambassador is chairman of the Diet.—*Ibid.*

Empire.		Do Meiningen Hil-	
Austria,	94,000	burghausen,	1,120
Kingdoms.		Do Altenburg,	928
Prussia,	79,000	Luxemburg,	2,556
Bavaria,	35,000	Schwarzenburg,	451
Hanover,	13,054	Do Rud-	
Saxony,	12,000	olstadt,	539
Wurtemberg,	13,955	Hohenzolern Hech-	
Electorate.		injew,	145
Hesse Cassel,	6,000	Do Sigma-	
Grand Dukedoms.		rinjew,	370
Baden,	10,000	Reüis junior,	539
Darmstadt,	6,000	Do senior,	206
Nassau,	3,028	Lippe Detmold,	690
Mecklenburgh		Schaumburg Lippe,	240
Do Schwerin,	3,580	Brunswick,	2,096
Do Strelitz,	717	Waldeck,	518
Dukedoms.		Lichtenstein,	55
Oldenburgh,	2,178	Landt-Graf.	
Holstein,	3,900	Hesse Homburg,	200
Anhalt Cöthen,	324	Free Towns.	
Anhalt Dessau,	529	Frankfort,	600
Anhalt Bernberg,	376	Bremen,	400
Saxe Weimar,	2,112	Lubeck,	430
Saxe Coburg Gotha,	1,120	Hamburg	1,456

The following is the strength of the armies of Europe actually kept up, with the number of vessels of war:

	Men.	Ves.		Men.	Ves.
England,	114,000	600	Naples,	30,000	2
Russia,	660,000	370	Sardinia,	30,000	8
France,	330,000	300	Norway,	22,000	0
Austria,	297,000	4	Greece,	10,000	3
Prussia,	167,000	6	Papal States,	9,000	1
Holland,	73,000	18	Portugal (not known.)		
Spain,	70,000	0	Hanover,	16,700	*1
Belgium,	50,000	0	Bavaria,	43,000	0
Sweden,	40,000	7	Saxony,	12,000	0
Denmark,	38,000	4	Wurtemberg,	14,000	0

*At the mouth of the Elbe—cannot go to sea.

STEEL OR IRON LININGS FOR BRASS GUNS.

MR. EDITOR: Having read in this month's number of your valuable Journal an objection to my proposed plan of steel or iron linings for brass guns, on the score of unequal expansion of the metals by atmospheric action, I have merely to observe that the idea first struck me in June, 1838, on seeing, in the model-room at Woolwich, a section of an imperfectly-cast gun, caused by the shrinking from heat of the clay round which it was cast. I thought if this could be obviated by using a more durable centre (such as gun metal) to cast round, it would be advantageous. It also occurred to me, after a short consideration, that if this bar were of tough iron or steel, by boring

out, leaving a crust or lining of a quarter of an inch thick, would combine the advantages of lightness and hardness. By using borax, not merely an adhesion, but a sort of amalgamation of the two metals can be effected, that I do not believe any atmosphere will influence; nor do I think that the heat or vibration from firing will cause separation by expansion, particularly as the more ductile metal embraces the other. In the miscast gun in the model-room, I think, there is a piece of iron firmly embedded in the brass, (I suppose by accident,) that no hammer could easily separate from the surrounding metal.

Begging to thank your correspondent for his kind opinion, and the courtesy of his letter, I am, sir, your old correspondent and obliged servant, FUSIL.

SHEERNESS, December 14th, 1839.

FRENCH NAVY.—The French navy consisted, in 1777, of 66 ships of the line, and 41 frigates; in 1787, of 70 ships of the line, and 65 frigates; in 1791, of 82 ships of the line, and 73 frigates; in 1801, of 55 ships of the line, and 43 frigates; in March, 1814, of 103 ships of the line, and 52 frigates; and in June, 1814, of 73 ships of the line, and 41 frigates. At present the navy does not possess more than 40 ships of the line, and, at the utmost, 50 frigates, including those on the stocks as well as in commission.—*Ibid.*

ANTIQUE ARTILLERY.—Some very curious relics of ancient English artillery and ammunition have recently been discovered by C. D. Archibald, Esq. on his estate upon the western shore of the Isle of Walney, Lancashire, buried in the sand and clay, at a place only accessible at low water. A tradition has existed in the island for several centuries that a vessel was wrecked at this place, and there are old men still living who pretend to have seen some considerable fragments of the wreck. Mr. Archibald employed a number of men to dig for the remains of the vessel. This search was rewarded by the articles enumerated below, but nothing more than a few decayed planks and timbers, and some pieces of iron, could be found to bear witness to the existence of the vessel. No. 1. The longest gun, when first discovered, was quite perfect, and measured ten feet in length. The breech was in the centre, and it fired both ways; it had two rings near the muzzles to sling it by. This piece is formed of thick plates of iron, hooped. No. 2. The piece with the rings is a culverin, and is quite perfect. It is formed of bars of wrought iron, hooped together. Nos. 3 and 4 are chambers, and are supposed to be charged with gunpowder. They are of wrought iron. There are a number of stone balls of different sizes, the greater number of granite; one is of sandstone, another apparently of clay iron stone. There is one of hammered iron, and some small ones cast, which have been enveloped in folds of lead, as if to add weight, and perhaps confer on them surfaces of sufficient malleability to fit closely to the bore of the rude cannon for which they were destined. A pair of bronze compasses, of very curious construction, some old swords, a buckle, and a number of other articles, were found during the excavations. It is to be observed that all the guns are of wrought or hammered iron. They have no trunnions, and the rings with which they are provided were to allow them to be slung up with ropes when fired. It is clear, therefore, that gun-carriages were not in use at the time these guns were used. At the same place a number of other guns, &c. have been found; one was six or seven feet in length, and of three inches calibre, and had a strong iron handle running along the top side. In the muzzle of this piece was found a miniature gun about fifteen inches long, probably a chamber. This large gun was found to contain a large charge of gunpowder, and the wadding, which was of oakum, was quite sound. Altogether, as many as twenty guns of different sizes have been found, and a great number of stone bullets. All the latter are, however,

of a calibre far too great for the guns, and suggest the query—do they belong to the ancient class of ballistæ, catapultæ, and scorpions, or to the “transition series” of falcons, sakers, culverins, &c.?—*London paper.*

From the United Service Journal.

THE DARDANELLES.

Busseca Bay, September, 1839, off the Dardanelles. MR. EDITOR,—The accompanying sketches,* made partly from personal observations and from documents which I have every reason to believe correct, may, perhaps, be deemed worthy of a place in your Journal, at a moment when the eyes of Europe are turned towards the spot which they attempt to delineate.

The number of guns mounted by the forts in the Dardanelles and Bosphorus, as laid down in the charts of the present day, is greatly exaggerated. The following list of those in the former I received from a distinguished General Officer, who had an opportunity, seldom to be attained, of acquiring the information he was kind enough to communicate to me: he accompanied the present Vizier on an inspection he made of all the fortifications during the month of March last by which means he was able to obtain access to every one from Gallipoli to Cape Janissary. It may not at the same time be irrelevant to remark, that since that period (March,) and particularly during the last two months, great exertions have been made by the Turkish Government to improve and strengthen the fortifications both of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles: even fresh works are being thrown up in the most favourable positions; the embrazures and revetments are undergoing extensive repairs; new gun-carriages have been provided, and in all probability additional ones have been mounted.

In a military point of view one object is prominent on both the Bosphorus and Hellespont: the forts are nearly all commanded, while the heights are undefended, and practicable roads exist along their whole extent.

List of the forts and number of guns on the Hellespont:—

	Guns.	Calibre.
Fort Abydos	50	80-pounders.
Battery of Kiossi	16	32-pounders.
Castle of Sultanieh Kalessi	75	60 and 40-prs. with 15 large guns carrying stone shot from 200 lbs. to 1000 lbs.
Battery of Namasah	48	42-pounders.
Castle of Killis Bahar	35	20 and 32-prs. and 15 large guns for stone shot of from 180 lbs. to 1000 lbs.
Battery of Dymna Bournow	20	42-pounders.
Battery of Kionli Bournow	16	32 and 24-pounders.
Fort Bovali Kalessi (antient Sestos)	30	40-pounders, and a few stone shot guns.
Castle of Korim Kali	40	Of which 18 are heavy stone guns.
Castle of Sutil Bahar	40	Of which 25 are heavy stone guns.
De Tott's Battery	12	

382

Total number of guns.

The total number of guns to which ships would be exposed, in passing the seven castles and batteries of the Dardanelles, is as follows:—

Bavali Kalessi, a fleur d'eau	-	-	-	-	28
Abydos, about	-	-	-	-	50
Kiamleh Bournow, a fleur d'eau	-	-	-	-	15
Dymna Bournow, ditto	-	-	-	-	20
Kiossi Battery, ditto	-	-	-	-	16
Killis Bahar { ditto	-	-	-	-	25
from Cavalier, 20 feet above ground	6				
Namasah Battery, a fleur d'eau	-	-	-	-	48
Sultanieh Kalessi, from main and two lateral batteries, ditto	-	-	-	-	70
Cavalier, 35 feet above ground	-	-	-	-	5

284

Averaging 32-pounders, but many carrying large stone shot of from 180 lbs. to 1000 lbs.

From Gallipoli to the Castle of Sutil Bahar, the extreme points of the Dardanelles, on the north or European shore, the ground is bold and much more eleva-

ted than on the southern side, overlooking all the forts. There is a road, practicable for artillery, along the whole extent of the ridge. The current of these straits runs three miles an hour in calm weather, and four and five with a north-easterly breeze. E. N.

* We regret our inability at present to annex these topographical plans, which are extremely well executed and highly creditable to our intelligent correspondent. —EDITOR.

From the Vergennes Vermonter.

Having been disappointed in our attempts to procure in relation to Captain Chauncey, all the information we were authorized to expect, our readers must be content for the present with a brief and compendious sketch of his life, in the place of a regular and detailed memoir.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE OF COMMODORE ISAAC CHAUNCEY.

BY AN OFFICER OF THE NAVY.

ISAAC CHAUNCEY was born in Connecticut, the descendant of an old and respectable family. Of the relations of his boyhood we know nothing. Whether his early attachments were peaceful or warlike—whether he preferred the land to the water, we are not informed, nor do we consider our ignorance of these matters a subject of regret, for it probably conceals nothing from us that would be interesting if known.

Young Chauncey's original entry into the naval service of his country was as lieutenant, upon the 10th of April, 1799. He was appointed from the State of New York, of which State he also claimed citizenship at the time. We do not read of Lieut. Chauncey's distinguishing himself in any particular manner previous to his appointment to the command of the Upper Lakes in the last war; at which time he was at the head of the Navy Yard at New York. His orders were issued on the 31st of August, 1812. "It being evident," says Cooper, "that the command was one of the most important that had ever been confided to an American officer, great care was necessary in the selection of the individual to whom this highly responsible and arduous duty was to be confided." It was generally admitted by all conversant with Capt. Chauncey's professional character, that a better selection could not have been made. Of tried firmness and spirit, he was one of the best practical seamen of the age, and his knowledge of ships extended to all those minute details which would properly come within the scope of his duties. Immediately upon receiving his orders, he set about obtaining the necessary supplies, men, ammunition, guns, &c., with his wonted energy. He arrived at his station at Sacket's Harbor, upon Lake Ontario, in the first part of November following, and hoisted his broad pennant on board the Oneida, 16 guns, Lieut. Comm. Woolsey. He made his first appearance on the lake on the 8th of November, and in company with the rest of his fleet, made a descent upon Kingston, and effected great damage to the enemy—receiving little or none in return. His next expedition was conducted against York, the capital of Upper Canada, which place he took, after a vigorous resistance, and burned two or three ships. Com. Chauncey himself displayed the greatest intrepidity during this action, rowing about in his boat quite close to the shore, continually stimulating by his presence his officers to deeds of valor. Shortly after, he took Fort George from the British, also with trifling loss. Com. Sir James Yeo had now been ordered upon the lake on the side of the enemy, an officer of great ability: but it appeared that he had the strictest orders to avoid a general engagement, his government thinking probably that it was better to continue to build ships until they had the decided numerical superiority, rather than hazard the loss of their power on the lake by a general action, when they were so equally

matched. At one period during the war, the enemy was fairly entrapped in York Bay, and compelled to fight. After a short action, the enemy's flag ship being disabled by the Commodore's ship, his fleet put dead away before the wind, when Com. Chauncey gave the order for a general chase. After pursuing the enemy for about two hours, he made signal to haul off. As the enemy was effectually beaten, and there is scarcely a doubt would have been destroyed had he been pressed, this order has been much condemned, as uncalled for and unfortunate. The motives which influenced the American Commodore, however, were marked by that discretion and thoughtfulness which are among the highest attributes of an officer, and which distinguished his whole career while intrusted with the arduous and responsible service over which he presided. "Bodies of men," says our former writer, "who are seldom competent to judge of the nicer circumstances that qualify merit, and particularly that which is so exclusively of a professional character as the conduct of a naval commander, are apt to assume that success is the only admissible standard; and while the success of the latter transactions on the lake was clearly with the Americans, it was not success of the brilliant and attractive nature that is the most apt to extort popular admiration." Few were qualified to understand that the size of the lake favored the policy of Sir James Yeo, by enabling him to run under the guns of his own batteries when hardest pressed; but the majority considered that the smaller the sheet of water on which the actions occurred, the easier to bring on a general action."

But time has gradually weakened this feeling, and the country already views the efforts of Com. Chauncey in their true light. "The rapidity and decision with which he created a force, as it were in a wilderness, the professional resources that he discovered in attaining this great end, and the continued gallantry and prudence with which he conducted before the enemy, are beginning to be fully appreciated in their true light; while the intrepidity with which he carried his ship into action off York, has already become a subject of honest exultation in the service to which he belonged."

Shortly after this period Com. Chauncey unfortunately fell ill of the lake fever, in the month of July, and was laid low the whole of the month. Although the duty at the harbor proceeded, it necessarily suffered for the want of the mind which had planned it, and whose resources had been so amply proved to be equal to the effort of creating a fleet in a forest.

The following winter was occupied by the belligerent powers in building vessels, but before the spring opened peace was declared.

No officer of the American navy ever filled a station of the responsibility and importance of that which Com. Chauncey occupied, and it may be justly questioned if any officer could have acquitted himself better, of the high trust that had been reposed in him. He commanded the profound respect of the bold, vigilant, and skilful commander to whom he was opposed, and to the last retained the entire confidence of his own government.

We have been indebted to Cooper's 'Naval History' for most of the particulars of this great man, but which carries us only to the end of the last war. From that period to the present time, Capt. Chauncey has had no scope for his abilities in a warlike line, for, thank God, our blessed country has remained in a state of peaceful tranquillity. He was appointed President of the Board of Navy Commissioners on the 5th day of June, 1833, a distinguished mark of honor and preferment, that he continued to hold until the day of his death, which, unfortunately for our glorious Navy, but as we hope, best for himself, took place at the seat of Government on the 27th day of January last. Crape has been ordered by the Secretary of the Navy, to be worn thirty days, in honor of

his memory. Also, the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, thinking it but meet to give "honor where honor is due," has ordered the like observance for the officers of the Army, as a small, very small tribute indeed, to the talents and patriotism of one who is now no more. Peace be to his manes.

BURLINGTON, Vt. February, 1840.

NAVAL ANECDOTES.

The opinion has always extensively prevailed in the United States, and doubtless even now generally obtains, fostered as it is by many of our own writers, that the only feeling which an elderly Englishman, who happened to be 'out' in America, during our national contest, entertains towards this country and her people, is one of decided hatred and repugnance. We can call to mind, at this moment, some half dozen native fictions, and one or two indigenous works of a different character, in which this position is set forth as a prominent fact. Now, as a general truth, we believe the reverse to be the case; and we are sustained in this opinion, by those who have had distinguished opportunities of judging of its correctness. An instance was recently related to us, by an illustrious American, known as well, and as highly honored, abroad as at home, which, without any infraction of social confidence, we shall here take the liberty to repeat, for the benefit of our readers. * * * Old Admiral Sir — HARVEY told me, at dinner, of his serving on the American station, when he was a midshipman in 1776. He was cast away in the 'Liverpool,' in the month of February, on Rockaway Beach. The boats were swamped in getting the crew to shore. The people of the neighborhood came down to the beach in wagons, took them up to their homes, changed and dried their clothes, and gave them supper. They remained quartered in this neighborhood for weeks, part of the time in tents, part of the time in farm-houses. Nothing could exceed the kindness of the people, particularly of the Quaker family of the Hicks's, and another family, who treated them always hospitably in their houses. They made great haycock among the bacon and beans, and passed their time pleasantly among the Quaker girls: who always, however, demeaned themselves with strict propriety; the old Quakers tolerating their youthful frolics. When they came to pay off scores, they expected to have a 'thundering bill.' The good people would take nothing but the king's allowance. 'You are people in distress,' said they, 'we will not take any thing out of your pockets.' The old Admiral declares he has never forgotten their kindness; it is true, he says, that he has only been able to express his gratitude in words; but if he had ever met an American in distress, he should have felt bound to befriend him. Whenever he has encountered an American or Quaker, he has felt proud to acknowledge the obligation. — *Knickerbocker for February.*

ORIGINAL ANECDOTES OF DECATUR.—The late gallant Decatur was a sailor to the very heart's core, and loved to tell anecdotes of the common sailors. I recollect one which he used to relate, to the following purport: In one of the actions before Tripoli, while fighting hand to hand with the captain of a gun-boat, Decatur came near being cut down by a Turk, who attacked him from behind. A seaman named Reuben James, who was already wounded in both hands, seeing the risk of his commander, rushed in and received the blow of the uplifted sabre on his own head. Fortunately, the honest fellow survived to receive his reward. Some time afterward, when he had recovered from his wounds, Decatur sent for him on deck, expressed his gratitude for his self-devotion, in presence of the crew, and told him to ask for some reward. The honest tar pulled up his waist-band and rolled his quid, but seemed utterly at a loss what recompense to claim. His messmates gathered around him, nudging him with their elbows,

and whispering in his ear—'He had all the world in a string, and could get what he pleased; the old man could deny him nothing,' etc.

One advised this thing, another that; 'double pay,' 'double allowance,' 'a boatswain's berth,' 'a pocket-full of money, and a full swing on shore,' etc. Jack elbowed them all aside, and would have none of their counsel. After mature deliberation, he announced the reward to which he aspired; it was, *to be excused from rolling up the hammock cloths!* The whimsical request was of course granted; and from that time forward, whenever the sailors were piped to stow away their hammocks, Jack was to be seen loitering around, and looking on, with the most gentleman-like leisure. He always continued in the same ship with Decatur. 'I could always know the state of my bile by Jack,' said the commodore. 'If I was in good humor, and wore a pleasant aspect, Jack would be sure to heave in sight, to receive a friendly nod; if I was out of humor, and wore, as I sometimes did, a foul-weather physiognomy, Jack kept aloof, and skulked among the other sailors.'

It is proper to add, that Reuben James received a more solid reward for his gallant devotion, than the privilege above mentioned, a pension having been granted to him by Government. * * * On another occasion, Decatur had received at New York the freedom of the city, as a testimonial of respect and gratitude. On the following day he overheard this colloquy between two of his sailors: 'Jack,' said one, 'what is the meaning of this 'freedom of the city,' which they've been giving to the old man?'

'Why, don't you know? Why, it's the right to frolic about the streets as much as he pleases; kick up a row; knock down the men, and kiss the women!' 'O, ho!' cried the other; *that's something worth fighting for!* — *Knickerbocker for March.*

From the New Philadelphia Quarterly Review.

REVOLUTIONARY REMINISCENCE.—When the British army held possession of Philadelphia, General Howe's head-quarters were in Second street, the 4th door below Spruce, in a house which was before occupied by Gen. Cadwalader. Directly opposite resided William and Lydia Darrah, members of the society of Friends. A superior officer of the British army, believed to be the adjutant general, fixed upon one of their chambers, a back room, for private conference: and two of them frequently met there, with fire and candles, in close consultation. About the 2d of December, the adjutant general told Lydia that they would be in the room at 7 o'clock, and remain late; and that they wished the family to retire early to bed; adding, that when they were going away they would call her to let them out, and extinguish their fire and candles. She accordingly sent all the family to bed; but as the officer had been so particular, her curiosity was excited. She took off her shoes and put her ear to the key-hole of the conclave, and overheard an order read for all the British troops to march out late in the evening of the 4th, and attack General Washington's army, then encamped at White Marsh. On hearing this she returned to her chamber and laid down. Soon after, the officer knocked at the door, but she rose only at the third summons, having feigned herself asleep. Her mind was so much agitated that she could neither eat nor sleep; supposing it to be in her power to save the lives of thousands of her fellow countrymen, but not knowing how she was to convey the information to Gen. Washington, not daring to confide it to her husband. The time left, however, was short. She quickly determined to make her way as soon as possible to the American outposts. She informed her family that, as she was in want of flour, she would go to Frankford for some: her husband insisted she should take her servant-maid with her, but to his surprise she positively refused. She got access to Gen. Howe, and solicited, what he readily granted, a pass through the British troops on the

lines. Leaving her bag at the mill, she hastened towards the American lines, and encountered on her way an American lieutenant colonel (Craig) of the light horse, who, with some of his men, was on the look out for information. He knew her, and inquired where she was going? She answered, in quest of her son, an officer in the American army, and prayed the colonel to alight and walk with her. He did so, ordering his troops to keep in sight. To him she disclosed her secret, after having obtained from him a solemn promise never to betray her individually, as her life might be at stake with the British.

He conducted her to a house near at hand, directed something for her to eat, and hastened to headquarters, when he brought General Washington acquainted with what he had heard. Washington made, of course, all preparation for baffling the meditated surprise. Lydia returned home with her flour; sat up alone to watch the movements of the British troops; heard their footsteps; but when they returned in a few days after, did not dare to ask a question, though solicitous to learn the event. The next evening the adjutant general came in, and requested her to walk up to his room as he wished to put some questions to her. She followed him in terror; and when he locked the door and begged her, with an air of mystery, to be seated, she was sure that she was either suspected or betrayed. He inquired earnestly whether any of her family was up the last night when he and the other officer met: she told him they all retired at eight o'clock. He observed, "I know *you* were asleep, for I knocked at your chamber door three times before you heard me: I am entirely at a loss to imagine who gave General Washington information of our intended attack, unless the walls of the house could speak. When we arrived near White Marsh we found all their cannon mounted, and the troops prepared to receive us, and we have marched back like a parcel of fools."

SEAMEN IN THE U. STATES, TONNAGE, &c.

Prepared for the Sailor's Magazine.

The following facts, in relation to the seamen of the United States, the tonnage of vessels, the number built in a year, &c., are gathered from the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, made to Congress during the present session. The year for which all the estimates are made was that which ended September 30, 1838.

The total number of American vessels entering from foreign ports, was 6,079; the tonnage of which was, 1,302,974 tons. They were manned by 62,559 men, and 2,386 boys. The number of foreign vessels entering our ports, during the same time, was 3,696; the tonnage being 592,110 tons. These were manned by 34,237 men, and 763 boys. Putting these together, and we have 9,775 vessels, measuring in all 1,895,084 tons, manned by 96,796 men, and 3,149 boys, making 99,945 souls. During the same period there were cleared from the several ports 10,144 vessels, measuring 2,012,927 tons, manned by 99,489 men, and 3,018 boys, or 102,507 souls in all. The proportion of American and foreign shipping cleared, being about the same as that entered. We may therefore very safely put them down, 6,000 vessels as entering and clearing from our ports for foreign countries only, every year, manned by 100,000 souls.

The coast of the United States is divided into 67 collection districts, usually comprehending one large port, and the adjoining smaller one. Of the vessels which entered the several collection districts in the year before mentioned, there entered New York, 1625; Boston, 1235; Passamaquoddy, 1040; New Orleans, 782; Oswego, 491; Oswegatchie, 461; Philadelphia, 428; Niagara, 415; Baltimore, 398; Charleston, 263; Portland, 203. No other port entered and cleared as many as two hundred vessels.

The total amount of tonnage owned in the United States in the beforementioned year was 1,995,639 tons, and eighty ninety-fifths. This amount was divided

as follows: registered vessels employed in the foreign trade, 822,591 tons; enrolled vessels employed in the coasting trade, 1,008,146 tons; licensed vessels, under 20 tons, employed in the coasting trade, 32,958 tons, making a total in the coasting trade of 1,041,105 tons, of which 190,632 tons is in steam navigation.

Employed in fishery as follows: whale fishery, (registered and included in the above account of registered tonnage,) 119,629 tons; do., enrolled, 5,229 tons; total employed in the whale fishery, 124,858 tons; enrolled vessels, employed in the cod fishery, 63,973 tons; licensed vessels, under 20 tons, employed in the cod fishery, 6,090 tons; total in the cod fishery, 70,063 tons; enrolled vessels in the mackerel fishery, 56,649 tons; giving a total, employed in the fisheries, of 251,571 tons. In the above numbers the fractions, or ninety-fifths, are omitted.

In estimating the number of seamen by the tonnage of vessels, it is common to allow about six men to every hundred tons employed in the foreign trade, about four men to the hundred tons in the coasting trade, and twelve men to the hundred tons in the fisheries. Taking these as correct numbers, and the tonnage above stated in round hundreds, rejecting all fractions, and we shall find the following numbers of seamen for the year stated, viz: In the foreign trade, including the whale fishery, 49,350; in the coasting trade, 40,324; in the cod and mackerel fisheries, 15,828; and to these are then to be added 35,000, belonging to foreign vessels, which entered our ports in a year. We shall in this way find 140,502 seamen entering our ports every year, for whose welfare we ought to care. It is plain that these numbers are not overrated, for in the foregoing statement of American vessels entering in a year from foreign ports, the number of men and boys is stated, by the official document, to be 64,945, while, by allowing six men to the hundred tons, we make but 49,350. This large difference is perhaps to be accounted for in the fact, that the whale ships are included as in the foreign trade, and they probably carry a larger number than six men to every hundred tons. Should we now add to the above numbers those employed on board the United States armed vessels, and we shall find considerably over one hundred and fifty thousand men, for whose welfare, both in this world and the next, every philanthropist ought to labor.

During the year, ending as before stated, on September 30, 1838, there were built, in the U. States, 66 ships, 79 brigs, 510 schooners, 153 sloops, and 90 steamers. Total, 878 vessels, measuring 113,135 tons. Of these vessels, 21 ships, 42 brigs, and 78 schooners, were built in Maine; 21 ships, 10 brigs, 121 schooners, were built in Massachusetts, and the remainder were scattered round the other States; more of the remaining schooners being built in Maryland, more of the sloops in New York, and more of the steamboats in Pennsylvania.

A comparison of the registered, enrolled, and licensed tonnage, for twenty years past, shows that the registered tonnage, or that employed in the foreign trade, though it has varied a little from year to year, has not increased much, and it is a little less than it was in the year 1836; while the enrolled and licensed tonnage, employed in the coasting trade, and the fisheries, has regularly increased, until it has nearly doubled.

From the New Orleans Bulletin, Feb. 19.

CESSION OF THE CALIFORNIAS.—The rumor of a pending negotiation for the acquisition of the two Californias by England from Mexico, is calculated to excite considerable interest. As to the truth of the rumor, we have no authority, except the letter published in the Courier of yesterday. There are, however, other circumstances, which render such a movement highly probable. The cession of the two provinces would give to Great Britain an extensive and valuable territory, in a part of the world where she

has long been anxious to gain a foothold; besides securing an object still more desirable—a spacious range of sea coast on the Pacific, stretching more than a thousand miles from the 42d degree of latitude, south—sweeping the circuit of the peninsula of California, and embracing the harbors of that gulf—the finest in North America. The ambition of the British cabinet would grasp at the prize, as a possession admirably adapted to advance the naval and commercial aggrandizement of the nation. It would be desirable, also, as offering a barrier to the encroachments of the Mexicans and Americans. For England well knows, that before another century the tide of emigration now moving to the base of the Cordilleras, will pass across the mountains, and overflow the regions bordering on the Pacific. The plan of a far-sighted policy may be, to establish colonies there, that might prevent the acquisition of the territory by a kindred but a rival people.

What might add strength to the resolution, is the fact that Mexico is indebted to England in a vast sum. The sale of the Californias might be a convenient mode of cancelling an enormous debt; and perhaps the settlement of other foreign claims due by Mexico might be included as part of the purchase money, in the bargain.

The following is the letter above referred to, from the New Orleans Courier. It is dated at the city of Mexico:

The limits of a letter will not allow me to dwell long on the foreign relations of Mexico, but there is one point which must not be passed over in silence, as it is of vital importance to the people of the United States, particularly those who are slaveholders. The British minister here is negotiating with every prospect of success for the two Californias, or in other words, the English are about obtaining possession of all that part of the coast on the Pacific between the 42d degree of north latitude and Cape Blas. This will include the magnificent bay and port of San Francisco, in latitude 38, possessing as great advantage for a man of war harbor as any other roadstead in the known world.

Aware of the Mexican mania for imitating any thing they see the European powers do, Mr. Packenham commenced his negotiations with Mexico by the declaration that England wanted to conclude a treaty with Mexico for the purpose of abolishing negro slavery. On hearing this, Bustamente and his ministers swelled up like the frog in the fable, and were delighted with the importance which Great Britain seemed disposed to give them. But as Mexico had neither vessels of war nor merchantmen, and reckoned neither slaves nor colonies, what part of the proposed agreement could Mexico carry out? Mr. Packenham pointed one out, alike philanthropic and glorious, which called for no other effort than that of generously giving up the Californias for a colony of negroes and mulattoes, from different quarters, under the control and protection of Great Britain.

The issue of a negotiation like that which is now going on for the Californias, managed as it is by one who joins no little artifice with the power of gold, cannot be doubted by those who know the interested yet silly character of the Mexican statesman of the present day. All other commercial and naval powers are destined probably to feel the consequences of such an acquisition by John Bull. The United States, however, are most interested; for let Great Britain succeed in planting her colored battalions in the Californias, and she will then have the Union surrounded by a chain of posts from New Brunswick to Honduras.

Under the pretext of colonizing the Californias with her colored allies, she may gradually introduce thousands of her East India troops, until the absolute control of all Mexico be her's. With the black battalions from the West Indies, and the yellow skinned sepoys from the East, the unscrupulous fanatics of England

would find argument for their abolition doctrines, such as it would require all the energies of our Southern States to resist. We trust that the government at Washington will look to this, and speak in such a tone as may compel the imbecile Mexicans to reject the dangerous proposal of England.

LECTURE BEFORE THE YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION.—LT. ALLEN'S* discourse "On the Errors of Public Opinion," delivered before the Association on Friday evening, elicited more than usual interest, in the number, respectability, and intelligence of the audience convened on that occasion. The novelty of the subject, or perhaps the desire to hear what could be said upon it by a young officer of our army, who it might be supposed could not himself be entirely insensible to its mighty influence, served, probably, to furnish him a full house that evening. If we are not mistaken, the lecture was well received. It struck us as portraying men and things in their true light—such as enables us to see them as they really exist in our own day and country. There was certainly no travelling from home in pursuit of materials for discoursing in regard to other and by-gone times, now only recorded in story or in song; or of matters existing and acting in other spheres—over which we have no more control than of the moon—while, moreover, a knowledge of such things, if possessed, would be utterly valueless to ourselves and others. For one, we would be in all things a *utilitarian*. Usefulness and the reasonableness of men and things we hope never to disregard. But the lecture was in our judgment, distinguished for boldness and independence of thought and feeling, so highly necessary to a freeman. It manifested, throughout, a good endowment of native firmness and self-esteem: enlightened by sound practical knowledge, mature reflection, and just discrimination; and what is no less important, to complete the whole, there was in its texture a deep and abiding sense of man's moral and improvable condition. Intelligence, virtue, and a proper sense of self-respect, were topics urged and inculcated as all important to free us from the trammels of "public opinion." No people, we suspect, are in greater danger from this *incubus* than the people of the United States. Few among us have the courage and independence to oppose this fearful enemy to freedom of mind and conduct. Few, very few, dare move in advancement of its *stationary engine*.—*Utica, N. Y. Observer, Feb. 25.*

* Lieut. ROBERT ALLEN, of 2d reg't of artillery, U. S. A.

DISASTERS AT SEA.—In a late number of the Sailor's Magazine there is a statement in reference to disasters at sea during the year 1839, taken from a record at the office of the American Seaman's Friend Society.

This statement shows, that notwithstanding the improvements which have been made in the art of navigation and in the construction of vessels, within late years, the loss of life and property at sea is still very great. Moral means are needed, in addition to the helps of science, for better security against the perils of the deep. The practice of abstaining from spirituous liquors, which prevails on board of many merchantmen, is greatly in favor of their superior safety; not only because the positive evils of intemperance are thus avoided, but also because a greater degree of care and watchfulness is thereby ensured. The Coast Survey, when completed under the direction of Mr. Hassler, will tend much no doubt to diminish the number of shipwrecks on our own Atlantic shore.—*Baltimore American.*

MUTINY.—Eight of the crew of the ship *Adrian Russel*, in Boston harbor, bound to New Orleans, were seized for mutiny, and brought up to town on Wednesday, Feb. 26, by Capt. Sturgis, of the cutter *Hamilton*.

WASHINGTON CITY,
THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1840.

THE MARYLAND MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL: and official Organ of the Medical Department of the Army and Navy of the U. S.—We have received the first number of the work bearing the above title, published in Baltimore, under the auspices of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, quarterly, at \$2,50 per annum. We would refer our medical readers to the circular of the Editorial Committee, to be found in this number, and congratulate the medical corps of both services in thus having an official organ through which they can communicate their dissertations on professional subjects.

ANTE-REVOLUTIONARY REMINISCENCE.

Much undeserved and unwarranted sympathy has been manifested, of old and of late, towards the aborigines of our country, and equal condemnation bestowed upon our countrymen for the course pursued towards them. Doubtless much wrong has been perpetrated on the one hand, as it is undeniable that the most barbarous cruelties have been practised on the other; and if a balance could be struck by an impartial hand, it might be a nice point to decide which side had most to atone for.

The peaceable policy of WILLIAM PENN, and his associates the society of Friends and their descendants, has been often referred to as the best and only true course to pursue towards the Red man; but we find that their deportment was not always characterized by peaceable measures. We are indebted to a friend in this city for a copy of a Proclamation issued by Gov. JOHN PENN, in 1764, which we publish as a curious relic. How much authority or consolation may be derived from this example, by the present generation, we leave for others to determine. Almost every transaction in life must be judged by its attendant circumstances; and even acts which we most condemn in others might be palliated though not justified, were all the temptations and incentives that led to them made known.

There is too prevalent a disposition in society generally to condemn upon *ex parte* testimony; and hence when private controversies are made public, we see the frequent appeals for a suspension of public opinion until the accused party can tell his tale. If every man would hesitate before he decides, and not make up his judgment until both sides are heard, we should have fewer heart-burnings, and possibly fewer controversies, in the world.

These are but general reflections, not pertinent perhaps to the matter of the proclamation, but naturally enough flowing from its perusal.

BY THE HONOURABLE
JOHN PENN, ESQ.

Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and the Counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex, upon Delaware.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the Delawares and Shawanese Tribes of Indians, and others in the Confederacy with them,

have, without the least provocation, and contrary to their late most solemn Treaties, ungratefully renewed War upon this Province, and in a most cruel, savage and perfidious Manner killed and butchered great numbers of the Inhabitants, burnt and destroyed their habitations, and laid waste the Country: I HAVE THEREFORE thought fit, by and with the advice of the Council, to issue this Proclamation; and do hereby declare the said Delawares and Shawanese Indians, and all others, who in conjunction with them, have committed hostilities against His Majesty's Subjects within this Province, to be ENEMIES, REBELS and TRAITORS to His Most Sacred Majesty. AND I do hereby require all His Majesty's Subjects of this Province, and earnestly invite those of the neighbouring Provinces, to embrace all opportunities of pursuing, taking, killing and destroying the said Delaware and Shawanese Indians, and others concerned in committing Hostilities, Incursions, Murders, or Ravages upon this Province.

AND WHEREAS, the Six Nations of Indians, viz: the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagoes, Cayugas, Senecas and Tuscaroras, have been, for the most part, in constant Amity with the Crown of Great Britain, and are now actually engaged with Sir William Johnson, His Majesty's Superintendent for Indian Affairs, in renewing and firmly establishing the Peace and Friendship subsisting between them and the several Colonies: AND WHEREAS, sundry of the Delaware, Nanticoke, and other Indians, professing a Regard and Friendship for all His Majesty's Subjects, have removed within the inhabited Parts of the Country, and put themselves under the Protection of this Government, and now live in the Barracks of this City, under a Guard of His Majesty's Regular Troops; I DO THEREFORE DECLARE, That the several Tribes of the said Six United Nations, as well as those Indians so as aforesaid living under the Protection of this Government, and all others who shall join or act with us in the prosecution of this just and necessary War, are expressly excepted and excluded out of this Declaration; and I do hereby strictly forbid any of His Majesty's Subjects within this Province to do them the least Injury, or give them any Molestation whatsoever, as they will answer the same at their Peril.

AND WHEREAS, it is necessary for the better carrying on offensive Operations against our Indian Enemies, and bringing the unhappy war with them to a speedy issue, that the greatest Encouragement should be given to all His Majesty's Subjects to exert and use their utmost endeavours to pursue, attack, take and destroy our said Enemy Indians; I DO HEREBY DECLARE AND PROMISE, That there shall be paid, out of the Moneys lately granted for His Majesty's Use, to all and every Person and Persons not in the Pay of this Province, the following several and respective PREMIUMS and BOUNTIES for the PRISONERS and SCALPS of the enemy Indians, that shall be taken or killed within the Bounds of this Province, as limited by the Royal Charter, or in Pursuit from within the said Bounds; that is to say,

For every MALE INDIAN ENEMY, above Ten Years old, who shall be taken Prisoner, and delivered at any Forts garrisoned by the Troops in the Pay of this Province, or at any of the County Towns, to the Keeper of the Common Gaols there, the Sum of ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY SPANISH DOLLARS, or PIECES OF EIGHT.

For every FEMALE INDIAN ENEMY, taken Prisoner and brought in as aforesaid; and for every MALE INDIAN ENEMY, of Ten Years old or under, taken Prisoner and delivered as aforesaid, the Sum of ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY PIECES OF EIGHT.

For the SCALP of every MALE INDIAN ENEMY, above the age of Ten Years, produced as evidence of their being killed, the Sum of ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FOUR PIECES OF EIGHT. And

For the SCALP of every FEMALE INDIAN ENEMY,

above the age of Ten Years, produced as evidence of their being killed, the Sum of FIFTY PIECES OF EIGHT.

AND that there shall be paid to every Officer or Officers, Soldier or Soldiers, as are or shall be in the Pay of this Province, who shall take, bring in, and produce, any INDIAN ENEMY PRISONER or SCALP, as aforesaid, ONE HALF of the said several and respective PREMIUMS and BOUNTIES.

Given under my Hand, and the Great Seal of the said Province, at Philadelphia, the Seventh day of July, in the Fourth year of His Majesty's Reign, and in the year of our LORD one thousand seven hundred and Sixty-Four.

JOHN PENN.

By His Honour's Command.

JOSEPH SHIPPEN, junior, *Secretary*.

GOD Save the KING.

We shall publish in our next a Proclamation of an earlier date, issued by Gov. SHIRLEY of Massachusetts, showing the policy pursued by our Puritan ancestors towards the Indians.

FRONTIER DEFENCES.—While the most active preparations are witnessed along the whole frontier of the British possessions bordering on the United States, little or nothing seems to be doing on our part, either to strengthen the posts we already have, or to add new ones.

These preparations on the part of the British government indicate a firm resolution to put down any future attempts at revolt, but may have an ulterior object—that of disputing to the last extremity our right to the soil claimed by both parties on the frontiers of Maine and New Brunswick.

If any thing can awaken our government to the necessity for being fully prepared for any contingency that may arise, it would seem to be the facts above stated, which now exist beyond a doubt. That vile spirit of party which has crept into our legislative halls, to the great detriment if not to the entire exclusion of the public interests, will not be checked until some direful calamity befalls the country, calling upon honest and true men to rally around the national standard, and protect the national honor.

As corroborative of the movements abovementioned, we annex extracts from two letters from gentlemen whose means of information are undoubted, and upon whose assertions the utmost reliance may be placed. The first is from Detroit, under date of Feb. 14, 1840.

"It may not be known in Washington that the British are erecting several works on this strait, which give it a new aspect of strength. The old work at Malden has been repaired, now enclosing a range of good wooden barracks, fitted for the accommodation of a large battalion of troops. The old stone barracks at Sandwich have been enclosed by a large rampart, that serves the double purpose of wall and barracks. Sawed logs are used. A new range of barracks is now going up at Windsor, directly opposite Detroit, which is said to be also fitted for a large battalion of troops. These last mentioned barracks are made of sawed logs, the buildings forming a square, with block houses in the angles. Only loop-holes appear on the outside; the logs are large enough to resist musket shot, and are pointed with mortar. This is undoubtedly a good method of constructing wooden barracks."

The other letter is from Buffalo, of a somewhat later date:

"The British government steamer frigate now building at Chippewa, on the Niagara river, will be launched in the spring, and another immediately after begun. The British had three armed steamers on this lake (Erie) last season, two on lake Ontario, and several schooners cruising continually. Why should we not have one, at least, if only to keep up a proper appearance of faith with our neighbors? These demonstrations upon the lakes, repairing old and building new fortifications, and fitting out cruisers, should be taken in reference to and connection with the Maine boundary question."

In the Chronicle of the 13th ult., we published a letter from the President of the New York Mercantile Library Association to Col. J. H. Vose, tendering to him, and all other officers of the army who may be stationed at New York, the use of the library. By some inadvertence, the address of that letter was omitted. We have since received a copy of Col. Vose's reply; also a copy of a similar invitation to the officers of the navy, and the reply of the Corresponding Secretary of the Naval Lyceum. We append the whole correspondence, as creditable to the liberality of the association, and complimentary to the army and navy.

MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

New York, Feb. 4, 1840.

To Lieut. Col. Vose,

U. S. Army, Commanding, New York.

SIR: I do myself the pleasure to forward herewith for your acceptance, a catalogue of the works in the possession of the Mercantile Library Association.

It will afford the Association much pleasure, if yourself, together with the officers of the army that are at present, or who may be in future, on this station, will make use of the Library as a place of reference, and the Librarians have been requested to furnish every facility to any gentleman of the army that may wish to examine the works.

Hoping that the invitation will be accepted with the same freedom that it is offered,

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obed't serv't,

AUG. E. SILLIMAN, *President*.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14, 1840.

SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your polite letter of the 4th instant, accompanied by a Catalogue of the Works in the possession of the Mercantile Library Association, and with an invitation to myself, together with the Officers of the Army that are at present, or who may be in future on this station, to make use of the Library as a place of reference.

I shall communicate your kind invitation to the officers now in the city, and shall forward a copy the Editor of the Army and Navy Chronicle, with a request that it may be published in that paper, for the information of officers who may visit New York, or be stationed here at some future period.

For myself, and in behalf of the Officers of the Army, I accept with much pleasure your invitation to make use of the Library, and trust that there are many officers who will be happy to avail themselves of the privilege accorded to them in so flattering a manner.

With sentiments of high respect, I am, sir,

Your very obedient servant,

J. H. VOSE, *Lt. Col. Third Infantry*.

AUG. E. SILLIMAN, *Pres't. M. L. Ass'n. N. Y.*

MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, }
New York, Feb. 4th, 1840. }

To Com. JAMES RENSHAW,

Naval Lyceum, Brooklyn Navy Yard, N. Y.

SIR:—I do myself the pleasure to forward herewith for your acceptance, a Catalogue of the Works in the possession of the Mercantile Library Association. It will afford the Association much pleasure if yourself, together with the Officers of the Navy that are at present, or who may be in future on this station, will make use of the Library as a place of reference, and the Librarians have been requested to furnish every facility to any gentleman of the Navy that may wish to examine the works.

Hoping that the invitation will be accepted with the same freedom that it is offered,

I am, sir, very respectfully, your ob't servant,

AUGUSTUS E. SILLIMAN, Pres't.

U. S. NAVAL LYCEUM, }
New York, Feb. 26, 1840. }

DEAR SIR:—I am directed by a resolution of the Naval Lyceum, to tender you its thanks for the Catalogue of the Library of your Association, and especially for the offer of the use of it for reference in your room. I am further instructed thereby to tender to the members of the Mercantile Library Association the use of the Library Rooms of the Naval Lyceum.

I am, very respectfully, your ob't servant,
CHARLES O. HANDY, Cor. Sec'y.

A. E. SILLIMAN, Pres't. M. L. Ass'n.

NEW PUBLICATIONS. LONDON, JANUARY, 1840.

*Treatise on Ship-building, by Augustin Creuze, of H. M. Dockyard, Portsmouth, President of the Portsmouth Philosophical Society, Member of the School of Naval Architecture, &c. &c. in one vol. 8vo, with numerous plates and wood-cuts.

*Treatise on the Nature, Properties, and Applications of Steam, and on Steam Navigation, by John Scott Russell, Esq., M. A., F. R. S. E., Vice President of the Society of Arts of Scotland, &c. &c. in one vol. 8vo, with numerous plates and wood-cuts.

*Treatise on the Steam Engine, by the same author, in one vol. 8vo, with numerous plates and wood-cuts.

The Surveyor, Engineer, and Architect, or London Monthly Journal of the Physical and Practical Sciences, in all their departments. No. 1, to be published on the 1st Feb. with characteristic engravings on wood and steel; three sheets, demy 4to—price 1s. To be edited by a Committee of practical engineers, surveyors, and architects, of much experience and in active employment. Robert Mudie, literary conductor.

Lights and Shades of Military Life. Edited by Major Gen. Sir Charles Napier, K. C. B.—2 vols. 8vo.

* In the press.

ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Feb. 27—Surgeon A. N. McLaren, army, Fuller's

Mar. 2—Lt. Col. R. E. De Russy, corps engr., do.

3—Capt. G. W. Hughes, T. Engrs., F. Markoe, jr's
Comm'r. I. Mayo, navy, Gadsby's

LETTERS ADVERTISED.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 1, 1840.

ARMY.—Capt. Robert Anderson, [Capt.] E. D. Bullock, Capt. G. H. Crosman, Lieut. R. W. Foote, Capt. J. J. B. Kingsbury, [Paymaster] B. F. Larned, Asst Surgeon B. W. Woods.

NAVY.—Lieut. George S. Blake, Lieut. John E. [K.] Bowie, Lieut. W. F. Lynch 2, Comm'r. Isaac Mayo, P. Mid. J. L. Parker.

MARINE CORPS.—Lieut. George F. Lindsay.

PASSENGERS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25, per ship Huntsville for New Orleans, Major T. Staniford of the army, lady and niece

CHARLESTON, Feb. 28, per steam packet Savannah, from Savannah, Commr. H. W. Ogden, of the navy. Per steam packet Wilmington, from Wilmington, Lieut. E. S. Osgood, of the army.

Proceedings of Congress, IN RELATION TO THE ARMY, NAVY, &c.

IN SENATE.

FRIDAY, FEB. 28, 1840.

Mr. WEBSTER presented a remonstrance against the use of bloodhounds in the Florida war; which was laid on the table.

Also, a petition for a Congress of Nations to adjust international difficulties; which was referred to the Committee of Foreign Relations.

Mr. BUCHANAN presented two memorials remonstrating against the use of bloodhounds in the Florida war; which were laid on the table.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which was referred certain resolutions of the General Assembly of Connecticut in favor of the establishment of a national foundry within that State, asked to be discharged from the further consideration thereof, and that it be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs; which was agreed to.

Mr. NICHOLAS, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported the following bill for the organization of a company of sappers, miners, and pontoniers; which was read, and ordered to a second reading.

A BILL

For the organization of a company of sappers, miners, and pontoniers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be created a company of sappers, miners, and pontoniers, to be called engineer soldiers, which company shall be composed of ten sergeants, or master workmen; ten corporals, or overseers; two musicians; thirty-nine privates of the first class, or artificers; and thirty-nine privates of the second class, or laborers; in all, one hundred men.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the pay and rations of the sergeants or master workmen of said company, shall be the same as those now allowed by law to the master workmen employed by the Ordnance Department; excepting that the engineer sergeants shall receive one ration only per day, instead of one ration and a half; of the corporals, or overseers, the same as those now allowed by law to the armorers, carriage-makers, or blacksmiths, employed by the Ordnance Department; excepting that the engineer corporals shall receive one ration only per day, instead of one ration and a half; of the privates of the first class, or artificers, the same as those now allowed by law to the artificers employed by the Ordnance Department; of the privates of the second class, or laborers, the same as those now allowed by law to the laborers employed by the Ordnance Department; and of the musicians, the same as those allowed by law to the musicians of the line of the army; the said non-commissioned officers, privates, and musicians, being respectively entitled to the same clothing and other allowances as are granted by law to non-commissioned officers, privates, and musicians of the artillery in the army of the United States.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the said engineer company shall be subject to the rules and articles of war; shall be recruited in the same manner and with the same limitation, and shall be entitled to the same provisions, allowances, and benefits, in every respect, as are allowed to the other troops constituting the present military peace establishment.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the said engineer company shall be attached to, and compose a part of the corps of engineers, and be officered by officers of that corps as at present organized; shall perform all the duties at present required of the company of artillery stationed at West Point; and in addition

thereto be instructed in, and perform, all the duties of sappers, miners, and pontoniers; they shall, moreover, be liable, under the orders of the chief engineer, to serve by detachments in overseeing, and aiding laborers upon the fortifications or other works under the Engineer Department, and in supervising finished fortifications, as fort-keepers, preventing injury, and applying repairs.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the chief engineer, with the approbation of the Secretary of War, be authorized to regulate and determine the number, quality, form, dimensions, et cetera, of the necessary vehicles, pontoons, tools, implements, arms, and other supplies for the use and service of said company as a body of sappers, miners, and pontoniers.

Mr. WHITE submitted the following resolution; which was considered, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be required to furnish copies of the reports, estimates, and plans, of the following surveys ordered by Congress, and made under the direction of the Bureau of Topographical Engineers; namely, of the survey for improving the navigation of the Neenah and Wisconsin rivers, the survey of the Rock river, the survey of the Haven of Rock river, and the survey of the pier at the northern extremity of Winnebago lake.

MONDAY, MARCH 2.

Mr. STURGEON presented four memorials remonstrating against the use of bloodhounds in the Florida war; which were laid on the table.

Mr. BUCHANAN presented four memorials, remonstrating against the use of bloodhounds in the Florida war; which were laid on the table.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which was referred a bill to explain and amend the fifth section of an act passed the 30th day of June, 1834, for the better organization of the Marine Corps, reported the same without amendment, and that he was instructed to move its indefinite postponement, when it was taken up for consideration.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3.

COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS.

A message was received from the House of Representatives by their CLERK, announcing that they had passed the bill to revive and continue in force the office of Commissioner of Pensions, with an amendment. [The amendment was the reduction of the salary of the Commissioner, from \$3,000 to \$2,500 per annum.]

Before coming to any decision on the amendment, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, FEB. 29, 1840.

Mr. VANDERPOEL, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill to provide for the support of the Military Academy for the year 1840; which was twice read, and on motion of Mr. V. the bill and the estimates accompanying, were ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. HABERSHAM, from the Committee on Commerce, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That the map of the southern coast from Tybee island to Hunting island, including a chart of the mouth of Savannah river, which was made from the surveys of Charles Wilkes, of the U. S. navy, be printed under the direction of the Committee on Commerce, and that 5000 copies be published; one hundred of which shall be deposited in the Navy Department.

Mr. CLIFFORD moved to amend the resolution so as to have the map executed under the direction of the printer of the House.

A debate here arose, in which Messrs. CURTIS, CLIFFORD, EVANS, and HABERSHAM, participated; when, without coming to any decision,

The House took up the Senate bill to continue the office of Commissioner of Pensions until the 4th of March, 1842.

The question before the House was the amendment of Mr. PROFFIT, to reduce the salary of the Commissioner from \$3,000 to \$2,500; and he demanded the yeas and nays.

After some debate, and without deciding the question, the House adjourned until Monday.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3.

The first business in order was the following resolution offered on Saturday last by Mr. HABERSHAM, from the Committee on Commerce:

Resolved, That the map of the southern coast from Tybee island to Hunting island, including a chart of the mouth of Savannah river, which was made from the surveys of Charles Wilkes, of the U. S. navy, be printed under the direction of the Committee on Commerce, and that 5,000 copies be published, one hundred of which shall be deposited in the Navy Department.

Mr. CLIFFORD moved to amend the resolution, by striking out all after the word resolved, and inserting:

That a map of the southern coast from Tybee island to Hunting island, including a chart of the mouth of the Savannah river, which was made upon the survey of Charles Wilkes, of the United States navy, be lithographed by order of this House, under the superintendence of the Topographical Bureau, and that 4,000 copies be published, 200 of which shall be deposited in the Navy Department, for the use of the navy, and 200 in the Library of Congress for safe keeping.

Mr. HABERSHAM said that he had no power to accept of the amendment offered by the gentleman from Maine, because the resolution had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, and of course he had no control over it.

Mr. CURTIS, after adverting to what appeared to him an unnecessary waste of time in this debate, proposed that if Mr. CLIFFORD would withdraw his amendment, he would give him permission to modify the original, so as to have the map published under the direction of the CLERK of the House.

Mr. CLIFFORD accordingly withdrew his amendment, and the original resolution was modified as suggested.

Mr. CURTIS then moved the previous question, but subsequently withdrew it at the request of

Mr. SMITH, who wished to say a few words on the subject before the question was taken. After some remarks Mr. S. renewed the motion for the previous question, which was seconded.

The main question was then ordered, being on the adoption of the resolution as amended; and the yeas and nays being ordered, the resolution was rejected—yeas 84, nays 95.

The hour having expired, the SPEAKER announced the orders of the day, being the Senate bill providing for the removal of the raft in Red river, with the amendment of Mr. BIDDLE.

Mr. JONES appealed to the courtesy of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, to allow him to call up the bill for continuing the office of Commissioner of Pensions. He reminded the House that, after to-morrow, the office would be no longer in existence, and should there be any objection to the passage of the bill, it would be productive of serious inconvenience. Mr. J. then had read at the CLERK's table a communication from the Secretary of War on that subject, showing the urgent necessity for the immediate passage of the bill.

Mr. RICE GARLAND objected to this bill having precedence of that for the removal of the raft in Red river. He would inform the House that he also had received a communication from the Secretary of War, showing that if the bill were not passed immediately, Government must lose a great amount of money.

Mr. JONES moved a suspension of the rules for the purpose of taking up the bill continuing the office of Commissioner of Pensions. This motion was agreed to, and the bill taken up, the question being on the amendment of Mr. PROFFIT, reducing the salary of the Commissioner from \$3,000 to \$2,500.

Mr. DAVIS, of Kentucky, being entitled to the floor, said that, owing to the necessity of immediate action on the bill, he would waive all further remarks, and move the previous question.

The second to the previous question and the call having been carried, the main question was put, and decided in the affirmative—yeas 89, nays 85.

The amendment having then been ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time,

Mr. PROFFIT asked some gentlemen better acquainted with the matter than himself, to give him some information as to what was the object of transferring the

duties which formerly devolved on the Secretary of the Navy, to the Commissioner of Pensions, as was done by this bill.

Mr. STARKWEATHER rose to move a reconsideration of the vote just taken on the amendment.

The SPEAKER said the gentleman would then have to move two reconsiderations: first, of the vote by which the bill had been ordered to a third reading; and, secondly, of the vote by which the amendment had been adopted.

Mr. STARKWEATHER moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill had been ordered to a third reading.

Some conversation here ensued between Messrs. ADAMS, STARKWEATHER, and the SPEAKER, as to the mode in which the question was again to be got at—of which, however, the reporter could scarcely hear a word. It resulted in the withdrawal, by Mr. STARKWEATHER, of the motion he had submitted.

And the question recurring on the final passage of the bill,

Mr. HOFFMAN said that, if in order, he would now move to recommit the bill for the purpose of striking out the 4th section. That section provided that the Naval Pension Fund, which had always been under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, should now be transferred to the charge of the agent—Mr. Edwards. In the first place, that pension fund did not come out of the ordinary resources of the Government. It had been created by the gallantry of the navy in the war of 1812, '13, and '14; and they had always looked to the Secretary of the Navy as their trustee to fulfil the objects for which the fund had been created. If the 4th section should now be struck out, there was another bill coming from the Senate which had especial reference to the naval pension fund of the United States; and when this bill came up, there would be time to discuss its provisions, and to make such arrangements as to the manner in which the fund should hereafter be managed, as might be thought advisable. This was the only motive which he now had in moving to recommit the bill for the purpose of striking out the 4th section. It might give much dissatisfaction to the officers of the navy that the guardian to whom they had a right to look should be released from all responsibility—that the fund should be mingled up with the other funds of the Government, and to be accounted for, not to the Secretary of the Navy, but to the Secretary of War.

Mr. JONES, of Virginia, would give a brief explanation in regard to this proposition. He was desirous to have done so before, and would have done so had it not been for the necessity which existed that the bill should be acted upon without delay. It was true that a portion of this fund had been created under the enactment of Congress, and consisted of prize money taken in the war of 1812, '13, and '14, and which was set apart for this purpose. Another portion, called the Naval Hospital fund, consisted of a portion of the wages of officers and seamen belonging to the navy. This fund, heretofore, had been under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, but, owing to a communication from that officer himself, (Mr. J. supposed,) the matter was taken up in another branch of the Legislature, and this section of the bill was incorporated into it. [Mr. J. here read an extract from the report of the Department, to show that the section had been introduced at the instance of the Secretary of the Navy himself.] The labor imposed upon the Secretary of the Navy was so great that he could not discharge the duties, and the consequence was that they must, of necessity, be devolved upon a subordinate clerk. In the present case, the proposition was to put the fund in charge of the Commissioner of Pensions, where there would be a sufficient responsibility; and, although it would not be direct to the Secretary of the Navy, yet it would be direct to an officer of equal grade with the Secretary of the Navy. The fund would be in the charge of a naval officer who had performed faithful public service, and there would be more responsibility, and a prospect of a better discharge of the duty than under existing arrangements, coupled to the additional prospect of a uniformity of decision through the whole system of pension laws.

Mr. J. then moved the previous question, but with-

drew it at the request of Mr. HOFFMAN, and on the pledge of that gentleman to renew it.

Mr. HOFFMAN said that the very difficulty which he had apprehended from want of time had now presented itself. It was important that this bill should be passed to-day; and neither the patience nor the time of the House would admit of a satisfactory investigation now. It was for this reason that he had submitted his motion in such general terms. If the House should hereafter think that this 4th section was right, they could, after having come to a deliberate judgment, incorporate it into the naval pension fund bill, when it should come up, in the course of two or three weeks. If, however, the House should now pass the section without understanding its effect, or listening to the arguments which might be urged against it, it would be too late, when the naval pension fund bill should come up, to make the desirable alteration. He did not, therefore, mean to offer any substitute at present; he merely wished the House to strike out the section, so as to give time for consideration.

This proposition contemplated a very important change, so far as it regarded the interests of the navy; and yet the change might be right or might be wrong. It was a most important change—pregnant with good as with evil to that body. The amendment had never passed through the Committee on Naval Affairs, which was the appropriate committee to have passed judgment upon it, and to have presented it to the House. Now, if the House would agree to strike out the section, they would be in the same position as though it had never been introduced. It might be adopted precisely as it stood, or it might be rejected hereafter, when the naval pension fund bill should be under consideration. But it seemed unfair and unkind that a measure of so much importance to the navy should be disposed of in this summary way, without even time for inquiry, or without having passed through that channel to which they had a right to look for the guardianship of their interests.

Mr. H. being then about to renew the demand for the previous question, in redemption of his pledge to Mr. JONES, Mr. MONROE urgently appealed to Mr. H. to withhold the demand—which Mr. H. said he could not do, being pledged to renew it.

And the previous question being then again demanded The SPEAKER said the main question would be on the passage of the bill.

Mr. HOFFMAN moved to strike out the fourth section.

The SPEAKER said it could only be done by unanimous consent.

Mr. HOFFMAN said if universal consent could not be obtained, he must move to recommit the bill.

Mr. McKAY rose and objected.

Mr. LAWRENCE hoped the objection would be withdrawn. It was very important that this bill should be passed to-day, because the commission of the Commissioner of Pensions would expire. The House had not had any opportunity of examining the fourth section. That section seemed to him to carry with it very important powers, and he confessed he was not, at this time, ready to vote upon it. It might be right or wrong—he did not say. But, at the same time, he desired that it might be stricken out now, and introduced into some other bill if it be right. At all events, time should be allowed for inquiry.

Mr. McKAY declining to withdraw his objection—

Mr. HOFFMAN moved a recommitment.

Mr. TURNER inquired if, after the previous question had been called, a motion to recommit was in order?

The SPEAKER answered in the negative.

Some conversation followed between Messrs. JONES, CLIFFORD, BRIGGS, and BANKS, on the point of order, when, the question being put, the demand for the previous question was seconded. The main question was ordered to be now taken. And the main question being on the passage of the bill, was decided by yeas and nays—yeas 157, nays 8. So the bill was passed.

Mr. W. THOMPSON then, after a few remarks, moved a reconsideration of the vote just taken, for the purpose of amending it by striking out the fourth section.

After some remarks from Mr. MONROE, in favor of the motion, Mr. HUBBARD called for the previous question; which being ordered, the question of reconsideration was decided in the negative—yeas 67, nays 83.

Domestic Intelligence.**FLORIDA WAR.***From the St. Augustine News, Feb. 21.*

A small party of citizens saddled up, and on this small band of active young men reaching the 7-mile branch, they found the lifeless body of young Walton alongside the carriage, the horses gone, together with the mail, and the carriage very much defaced. After discovering this outrage, they pursued onward, in order to extend the information to some of our citizens who were encamped along the North river. On arriving at Jenkins' and Palmer & Ferris' live oak camp, they ascertained that Mr. J. Garcias, the carrier of the northern mail, had passed by their places on Saturday about 12 o'clock. His non-arrival, therefore, established the fact that something had happened to him. As soon as day broke, an active search was commenced for him, and it was not until late on Sunday morning that his body was found in the palmettoes, near the nine-mile post, stripped, and with two balls in it. The wagon was all broken to pieces, the horses gone, and a part of the mail, consisting of newspapers, were found scattered about, but the mail bag, with the rest of the mail, was gone.

The bodies of Messrs. Walton and Garcias were brought into town and the former buried on Sunday evening, and the latter on Monday morning.

Comment upon the facility and impunity with which murder after murder is perpetrated, almost seems a useless duty. Experience is not gained by a repetition of the acts, nor does it seem that any suitable effort is made to *capture the enemy*. Operations have assumed a defensive character; and the grand and primary ones of pursuit and active movement are considered accomplished when the scout has been out some forty-eight hours. What can compete with the stealthy caution of the enemy, if the most wakeful observation is lost sight of? It is not pretended but that the enemy, emboldened as they are by repeated successes, will not hazard and venture a great deal to accomplish their object—but they are human beings, and influenced by the same fears which operate with the white man; and if they were satisfied that incessant scoutings were kept up, as well by night as by day, they would be extremely cautious how they passed within the lines of a post where their retreat was liable to be cut off. Nothing but continued and active movement—a searching of the country through bye-places—a hunting for the enemies' fires at night—will or can impress them with a suitable respect for the activity of the white man. If an alarm is given, immediate pursuit should be made, whether in the dead hour of the night, or at mid-day; and no slumbering till morning, that the ease of the officer may be consulted, and the Indian allowed a gain of four or five miles of the hour. It is time, high time, that these repeated successes of the Indians should be checked. It is time, high time, that officers should be held responsible for any neglect of duty; and that a strict examination should be made into the facilities by which the enemy passes and retreats by military posts. What are we, the people, to expect of the speedy close of this war, when we hear of troops being chased by the enemy, their arms and ammunition captured, and slain and wounded with impunity? The subject is one worth the closest scrutiny of the Commanding General, and of the Congress of the United States. The officer of a post should always be at his post—then emergencies will find him ready for the performance of that duty; and if he fails in the performance of that duty he is clearly unfitted for the sacred trust of protecting human life. The whole country is rife with the movements of Indians, and if they are to be checked, it must be done by prompt and vigorous exertion upon the part of those entrusted with the protection of our people.

Sergeant Cercopoly and his command recovered a

large portion of the northern mail on Monday last, which were delivered to the postmaster. Some of the letters were torn. They were found about a half mile from the road, whither the Indians had dragged the wheel and frame of the light wagon, and left some remains of a hog which they had slaughtered, belonging to the mail carrier.

On Wednesday last a party of gentlemen started in quest of the lost Jacksonville mail. Proceeding to the scene of the murder of its carrier, they trailed the Indians about two miles in a northwesterly direction, and came to a small cluster of trees where they had rested for some time, as their horses had lain down, and where they emptied the contents of the mail bag. But one letter was injured, and a few packages of newspapers opened. The gentlemen who volunteered to search for this public property are entitled to the thanks of the country, as well as any remuneration which the Postmaster General might award. Its reception would be appropriated to a benevolent object, and as far as money can go, would alleviate the sorrows of one who has been a severe sufferer by the murder.

The Indians are supposed to have amounted to twelve or fifteen; and the inferences drawn by these gentlemen—all woodsmen, and familiar with the character of the enemy—is, that but a portion have gone off with the horses, as no foot trails are visible proceeding south.

A memorial to Congress has been prepared, and will be speedily forwarded, praying relief for the widow of the late Mr. J. Garcias, killed by the enemy in the performance of his duty, as well as relief for the loss of property sustained by the mail contractors in the capture of their horses, &c.

FROM NEW SMYRNA.—On the 24th ult. a party of wood-cutters, belonging to the garrison at New Smyrna, were fired upon by the Indians, half a mile from the fort. They wounded one man, captured three muskets, and a spare jacket or so. A sally was made by the garrison, and as usual, no success. While the troops were pursuing them, one Indian had the temerity to venture within sight of the garrison with a soldier's jacket on, and in range of three six-pounders.

Col. Twiggs, 2d dragoons, has position for the present at Picolata. He will proceed to an examination of the country south, as well as neighborhood of the Ocklawaha, where he learns a large camp of Indians are. The hounds would be useful on this occasion.

Capt. Mickler, of the volunteers, proceeded from his post at Hewlett's mills, on Monday morning at daylight, and trailed the Indians to the Tomoko river.

From the New York Gazette.

The following has been crowded out for two successive days:

FRIGATE UNITED STATES, off Sandy Hook, }
February 13th, 1840. }

SIR: Mr. Charles White, a Jersey Pilot, has brought this ship out, over the Bar, by way of Gedney's Channel, and the average sounding at half tide, was five fathoms—the least cast of the lead might be stated at a quarter less five.

Very respectfully,

LAWRENCE KEARNY,

Commanding Frigate United States.

To Commodore JAMES RENSHAW,

Naval Station, New York.

From the New Era of Feb. 21.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17, 1840.

To the Editors of the New Era:

Observing in your paper a communication under date of February 14th, under the signature of James Renshaw, commandant, relative to the U. S. frigate United States, stating that she was piloted out by a Jersey Pilot, (Mr. White) through Gedney's Channel, I beg leave to state that it is false in every particular, as she was piloted out by Mr. James Kelso, one of the

oldest and most experienced of the *N. Y. Pilots*, (who was well acquainted with the channel now called Gedney's Channel, probably before the birth of its pretended discoverer,) through the usual ship channel.

CANDOR.

To Lieut. R. W. MEADE,

Navy Yard, New York.

SIR: I take the earliest opportunity to inform you that in taking the U. S. frigate *United States* to sea, that before entering *Gedney's Channel*, my associate Mr. James Kelso, declared to me, in the presence of others, that he did not know the *Gedney Channel*, and that he would not act any longer as my associate in taking the ship through this channel. Mr. Kelso strenuously objected to my going through said channel, and seeing me determined in so doing, left the poop deck, and did not return to duty until the ship had passed the bar.

I am constrained to make this statement, in consequence of the enclosed communication, published in the *New Era*, and addressed to the editors of that paper on the 17th inst., under the anonymous signature of "Candor."

I have been absent from the city, and have just been informed of this matter.

Please excuse the liberty I take in addressing you on this subject—all I ask is, that justice should be done me in my absence.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES WHITE, *Jersey Pilot*,

And Pilot of the U. S. frigate United States,
Feb. 1840, through Gedney's Channel.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25, 1840.

U. S. COURT.—*Mutineers punished*.—Scott, Murphy, John Smith, Jones, and Robert Smith, mutinied on board the brig *Saratoga* while she was getting under weigh from New York, in January, with U. S. troops for Florida, were sentenced to a fine of \$10 each, and five years imprisonment.

Ellison, Daniel Smith, and Arnold, charged with mutiny in the ship *Norman*, at Havana, were acquitted.—*N. Y. Star*.

The U. S. brig *Washington* having nearly terminated her usual active duty, during the winter, under Lieut. Fraser, of the revenue service, in assisting vessels in distress on the coast, will in a few weeks resume her examinations in continuation of the coast survey, in which she has already, under her accomplished commander, Lieut. Gedney, and his officers, performed such arduous and important services.—*N. Y. Star*.

OHIO, 74.—There has been some difficulty, row, or mutiny on board the *Ohio 74* in the Mediterranean, which required the aid of Commodore Hull and the marines to quell, but we have not learnt particulars.—*Philadelphia Gazette*.

U. S. SHIP OHIO, AND A TOUGH OLD COMMODORE.—There has been much talk in the city, during the few days past, of a mutiny on board the U. S. ship *Ohio*, and sundry exaggerations have been circulated, that it is perhaps as well that a plain tale should correct.

The facts, as we understand, are these. The crew had not been ashore on leave from the time of their departure from the *United States*. Anxious for some liberty, at last, when in Port Mahon, one bright morning, some three hundred of them went forward in a body to the break of the quarter deck, asking to speak to the captain. The lieutenant on duty, possibly not reflecting that the very fact of such a body applying to address the commander, was in itself an act of gross insubordination, instead of ordering them back sent for the captain. On his appearance, and perceiving what was the condition of things, he sent for the com-

modore. The old man, the hero of the *Constitution*, did not stay to be twice bid. He was instantly on the quarter deck, and as instantly told these sailors they were committing an act of mutiny that "might hang some of them." He then, after rebuking them sternly for the breach of discipline, ordered them instantly to disperse and go below. They dispersed upon the word, and went below. He then ordered all hands to be piped to quarters. All hands were in a trice at quarters. They were then piped below, and again all went below. This was repeated three or four times, and always the same alacrity and promptitude in obeying orders. Finally the order was given to get up the anchor. The ship was got under way, and for ten or twelve days she cruised about the Mediterranean. By the end of that time, the men conducting themselves perfectly well, the commodore returned into port, piped all hands, told them he was much satisfied with their conduct, and that he would let them go ashore; and, accordingly, leave was given to them, which was not abused, for a frolic on shore. Discipline was preserved on board, and the old commodore came out, as usual, bright and true as steel.—*N. Y. American*.

From the St. Johns Courier, Feb. 15.

WARLIKE!—Her Majesty's ship *Vestal* has arrived at Halifax, where, we understand, other vessels of war are soon expected, for the purpose of bringing troops and munitions of war to this Province, in case they should be required.

We learn, also, that the 23d Fusileers, now in garrison at Halifax, instead of being about to proceed to the East Indies, is the first regiment for service in this Province, and has received orders to be ready to move at the shortest notice.

We are further informed, upon good authority, that the erection of barracks at Woodstock, in this Province, for the accommodation of a large military force, has been determined upon, and the work is to commence immediately.

These precautions, we presume, are taken in accordance with the views expressed in the communication of the British Minister at Washington to the American Secretary of State, under date of the 26th of January.

FROM HALIFAX.—We have received Halifax papers to the 20th instant. They contain no news from abroad, and no indication of any movements of troops having any apparent reference to the boundary question.

The Colonial Assembly had adopted an address to the Lieut. Governor, in relation chiefly to the Executive Council, and received an answer, which places the two branches in such a state of collision, that notice has been given, after the business of the session shall be despatched, to move an address or resolution requesting the Sovereign to remove Sir Colin Campbell, and to send out a Governor who will carry out the liberal views of the Home Government. The address above referred to was passed by a vote of 27 to 9.—*Boston Daily Advertiser*.

FROM MONTEVIDEO.—Capt. Hall, of barque *Casilda*, arrived yesterday from Montevideo, whence he sailed December 25, reports that the two French frigates and four bomb brigs, heretofore reported as sailed from Rio Janeiro, arrived at Montevideo about the 22d December.

U. S. frigate *Independence*, Commodore Nicolson, was at Montevideo.—*Ibid*.

GREAT BRITAIN AND CHINA.—A letter from London, of date of 26th December, communicates the following intelligence of movements pointing to a hostile demonstration on the part of England against China:

"The *Pantaloön* brig of war, which sailed from Plymouth about three weeks since, relieved a sloop

which proceeded forthwith to the South American station, it is supposed to order some of the vessels on that station to join the East India squadron.

"The Nimrod, sixteen, is fitting at Plymouth for the East Indies, and expected to sail in three weeks.

"The Blenheim, seventy-four, refitting at Portsmouth, joins the East India squadron as quickly as possible, and carries out four of the large guns for throwing hollow shells, for the Admiral's ship Wellesley, seventy-four.

From the National Intelligencer.
SCIENTIFIC.

Extract from report of the second exhibition of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association.

DAN. DAVIS, jr. Boston. SEPT. 23, 1839.

"A large variety of electro-magnetic and magneto-electric apparatus. These instruments illustrate the principles of a new and most interesting department of science. The deflection of the magnetic needle by electric currents, the earliest fact known in electro-magnetism, was discovered by Oersted, in 1819; and the induction of electric currents by magnetism, the fundamental fact in magneto-electricity, was discovered by Faraday, 1831. These two sciences have since advanced with a rapidity unparalleled in the annals of scientific discovery. Many of their most important principles are beautifully illustrated by the apparatus exhibited by Mr. Davis. This apparatus is all neatly, thoroughly, and skilfully made, and in some respects, especially in the winding of the insulated wire on which the power of many of the instruments greatly depends, is decidedly superior to similar articles imported from Europe. Mr. Davis possesses a thorough acquaintance with the theory of the instruments he manufactures, and hence he has been enabled to introduce into many of them important modifications and improvements. Some of the most valuable of these instruments are of his own invention; among the most recent of which is the double Helix and Electrotome, not yet described in any scientific journal. Some of the results obtained by it are new; and it is no exaggeration to say that it demonstrates, in a striking manner, a greater variety of principles in electro-magnetism and magneto-electricity than any instrument of which a description has hitherto been published.

"His instrument for the analysis of shocks, and two electro-magnetic engines, are worthy of high commendation, as beautiful and ingenious inventions. Several of the instruments exhibited by Mr. Davis, and originally manufactured by him, were invented by Dr. Page, (of Washington,) and are now extensively used by scientific lecturers in Europe, and highly commended in foreign philosophical journals. Indeed, it would be difficult to name a philosopher, either in this country or Europe, whose discoveries and inventions in this department of science have, within the last two or three years, been more numerous and valuable than those of Dr. Page.

"Mr. Davis is the only philosophical instrument maker in this country who manufactures apparatus of this kind to any considerable extent; and he is entitled to the praise of having done much by his instruments to promote a taste for the sciences they are intended to illustrate."

A gold medal awarded.

The apparatus was also exhibited at the Fair of the American Institute at New York, and received the award of a gold and silver medal.

NEW YORK STATE MILITIA.—The annual report of the Adjutant-General gives a rather deplorable account of the condition of the militia of this State. The recapitulation of the inspection returns from the different brigades makes the aggregate number of the militia of this state 180,103, viz: cavalry and horse artillery, 7,427; artillery, 9,256; infantry, light infantry and riflemen, 160,420; uniform companies at-

tached to infantry brigades, 3,000. This total includes officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates. The nominal number of privates is 133,581, nearly half of whom are marked as absentees from the annual inspection parade, as follows:

	Present.	Absent.
Infantry, privates, - - -	65,056	59,131
Artillery, " - - -	2,555	1,996
Cavalry and horse artillery, do - - -	2,135	2,708
Total, - - -	69,746	63,835

The number of muskets returned as inspected is 24,035, and of rifles 23, 897—total 47,932—or about 20,000 short of the number of privates who ought to carry muskets or rifles, present at the review for 1839.

The report goes on to say:

"It thus appears, that while the nominal force of the militia of this State exceeds 180,000, not more than 95,000 officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, were present at the fall parades, and scarcely two-thirds of these were even partially armed and equipped. It may be added, that of the arms in the hands of the militia, as well as of those in the State arsenals, a very large proportion are totally unfit for use; that in very few of these arsenals are any munitions of war to be found; and that even if the militia were efficient in other respects, the State is without the means of arming it for active service."

The bad condition of the service is attributed to defects in the existing militia laws; but as the subject of reform in the matter "has at length attracted the attention of the War Department of the federal Government," the Adjutant General offers no suggestions for the improvement of the system.—*N. Y. Commercial Advertiser, Feb. 26.*

Military Intelligence.

Medical Staff.—Asst. Surgeon J. Simpson, ordered to proceed to Fort Gibson and relieve Asst. Surgeon J. H. Bailey, who will then proceed to Florida and report for duty. Leave of absence for three months to Asst. Surgeon W. J. Sloan. Resignation of Asst. Surgeon R. Archer accepted, Feb. 29.

Topographical Engineers.—Capt. G. W. Hughes, ordered to Mobile, to superintend the improvements of that harbor. On being relieved, Capt. C. Graham to proceed in execution of the order to survey the Suwanee river.

March 2—Lieut. L. Sitgreaves, ordered to report to Capt. Cram, for duty in Wisconsin.

1st Infantry.—Resignation of 2d Lieut. W. H. Korn accepted, to take effect March 15.

5th Infantry.—Resignation of Capt. G. Lowe accepted, Feb. 29.

Naval Intelligence.

OFFICERS OF NAVY YARDS, STATIONS, &c.

NEW YORK, MARCH 1, 1840.

NAVY YARD.

Commodore James Renshaw, commandant.

Commander Silas H. Stringham.

Lieutenants William D. Newman, Theodorus Bailey, Lloyd B. Newell, John K. Mitchell, Henry Moor, Wm. C. Chaplin, Richard W. Meade.

Surgeon William Johnson.

Assistant Surgeon Henry S. Rennolds.

Purser Joseph H. Terry.

Chaplain Peter G. Clark.

Masters F. H. Ellison, R. H. Nichols.

Passed Midshipman Francis Lowry.

Boatswain Edward Crocker.

Gunners Charles Cobb, Thomas Ryley.

Sailmaker Richard Van Voorhis.

HOSPITAL.

Surgeon Stephen Rapalje.

Assistant Surgeon Wm. F. McClenahan.

NAVAL SCHOOL.

Professor of Mathematics Edward C. Ward.
Teacher of Languages T. Morel, Jr.

RECEIVING SHIP NORTH CAROLINA, 74.

Captain John Gallagher.
Lieuts. Henry A. Adams, Thomas J. Manning, John E. Bispham, John Colhoun, Charles G. Hunter, Charles Green, Henry Walke.
Surgeon Isaac Brinckerhoff.
Assistant Surgeon Thomas N. Potter.
Purser Benjamin J. Cahoon.
Passed Midshipmen C. C. Barton, C. Thomas.
Midshipman Leonidas McDougall.
Boatswain William Brady.
Gunner James M. Cooper.
Sailmaker James R. Childs.

ORDINARY.

Master Francis Mallaby.
Carpenter William E. Sheffield.
Boatswains John Smith, Charles Johnson.

RENDEZVOUS.

Commander Benjamin Page.
Lieuts. Henry Eagle, Henry W. Morris.
Surgeon Peter Christie.
Master Thomas Goin.
Passed Midshipman Matthias C. Marine.
Navy Agent, John R. Livingston, Jr.
Naval Storekeeper Tunis Craven.
Naval Constructor Samuel Hartt.

MASTER MECHANICS.

Carpenter Samuel T. Hartt.
Blacksmith J. B. Hill.
Boatbuilder Robert Potter.
Joiner James Dubois.
Cooper T. Hardenbrook.
Plumber William Boyle.
Inspector and Measurer of Timber A. Fordham.

CLERKS,

Of the yard:
Commandant George W. Lee.
A. D. Ostrander,
Frederick Stevens.
Storekeeper John Acosta,
John L. Watson.
Master Builder John Hartt.
Porter John Dougherty.

MARINE GUARD.

Captain John Harris, commanding.
1st Lieuts. Wm. Lang, Geo. W. Robbins.
2d Lieuts. John S. Devlin, Wm. L. Shuttleworth.

ON RECRUITING SERVICE.

Captain Benjamin Macomber.

U. S. VESSELS OF WAR REPORTED.

MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON.—Frigate Brandywine, Capt. Bolton, arrived at Port Mahon, on the 29th Nov. in 38 days from Norfolk, and sailed on the 9th Dec. for Toulon.

BRAZIL SQUADRON.—Ship Marion, Commr. Belt, at Rio Janeiro, Jan. 14.

PACIFIC SQUADRON.—Ship St. Louis, Commr. Forrest, sailed from Talcahuana, Dec. 1, for Valparaiso.

WEST INDIA SQUADRON.—Ship Warren, Lt. Comg. S. B. Wilson, at Havana, Feb. 15.

Frigate Macedonian, Capt. Kennon, at St. Thomas, Feb. 16, bound to St. Johns, P. R.

Ship Levant, Commr. Smoot, at St. Thomas, Feb. 11.

Brig Dolphin, Lt. Comdt. C. H. Bell, arrived at Santa Cruz, Teneriffe, Jan. 15, and sailed Jan. 28, on a cruise; she lost a boat on the coast in a gale.

Schr. Flirt, Lt. Comdt. McLaughlin, at Havana, Feb. 15.

NAVY.

ORDERS.

Feb. 26—Lt. J. W. West, rec'ng ship, Norfolk.
27—Mid. J. Julian Barry, rec'ng ship, New York.
Gunner A. Stephenson, rec'ng ship, Boston.
28—Mid. E. A. Hopkins, schr. Enterprise.
Prof. Joel Grant, detached from frigate U. S.
29—Mid. A. Barbot, West India squadron.
Mar. 3—Com'r I. Mayo, det'd from steamer Poinsett.
Lt. W. F. Lynch, com'd of steamer Poinsett.

MARINE CORPS.

CHANGES BETWEEN THE 1ST AND 29TH FEB. 1840.

Feb. 1—Captain William Dulany, ordered to close the Rendezvous at Baltimore, at the expiration of this quarter, and report at Head Quarters for such duty as may be assigned him.

Feb. 3—Capt. Ward Marston, ordered to close the Rendezvous at Boston, Mass., and report for duty at the Marine Barracks, Charlestown, Mass.

Feb. 28—2nd Lieut. Wm. L. Young obtained leave of absence for two months from 1st March.

A court martial was ordered to convene at the Marine Barracks, Charlestown, Mass., on the 18th Feb. for the trial of 2nd Lieut. Louis F. Whitney.

The Court is composed of the following officers, viz: Major and Bvt. Lt. Col. Saml. E. Watson, President; Capt. Ward Marston; 1st Lieuts. Alvin Edson, Nathaniel S. Waldron, Jacob Zeilin; 2nd Lieuts. Fredk. B. M. Neill and Isaac R. Wilson, Members.

MARRIAGES.

At Bloomsbury, Harford County, Md., on the 26th Feb., MASKELL C. EWING, late of the U. S. army, to CORNELIA, daughter of the late Wm. M. LANSDALE.

In New York, on the 26th Feb. Lieut GEORGE PEGRAM, of the U. S. army, to Miss SUSAN SPENCER, daughter of the late OLIVER H. SPENCER, of Elizabethtown, N. J.

CIRCULAR.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE ARMY AND NAVY OF THE UNITED STATES.

BALTIMORE, March 1, 1840.

DEAR SIR—The Editorial Committee take pleasure in announcing to you the fact that the Maryland Medical and Surgical Journal has been accepted by the Surgeon General of the Army and Secretary of the Navy, as the official medical organ of the Army and Navy of the United States. They feel a strong hope that it is only necessary to announce this fact to you in order to secure your patronage and co-operation in sustaining us in our enterprise. We respectfully solicit your aid as a subscriber and collaborator, feeling confident, from the known esprit de corps of the Medical Staff of the army and navy, that we shall meet with a prompt and favorable response. If you conclude to aid us in opening this, another channel for the improvement of our profession, will you do us the favor to communicate to us your determination as soon as possible, in order that we may be prepared to issue a sufficient supply of our second number, which is now in press; and also to what point you will have us send the Journal.

Respectfully yours,

GEO. C. M. ROBERTS,
NATHANIEL POTTER,
JAMES H. MILLER,
ROBERT A. DURKEE,
JOHN R. W. DUNBAR,
SAMUEL GEORGE BAKER,

Editorial
Committee.

March 5—3t

ARMY, NAVY, AND MARINE UNIFORMS.

JOHN SMITH, (late of West Point,) would respectfully inform the officers of the army and navy, that he is now enabled to furnish to the different corps their uniform complete, all made of the best materials, and forwarded with despatch.

To prevent errors, the Legislature of New York has authorized him to change his name to JOHN S. FRASER; therefore all letters hereafter will be addressed to JOHN S. FRASER,
March 5—tf 168 Pearl street, New York.

E. OWEN & Co.,

MILITARY AND NAVAL MERCHANT TAILORS,

NEAR FULLER'S HOTEL, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE,

BEG leave to inform their patrons of the Army and Navy, that they have made arrangements to receive, direct from London, gold and silver Epaulets, Embroidery, gold and silver Lace, and all the articles necessary for the equipment of officers for either service, of a very superior quality.

To the officers of the Corps of Topographical Engineers, they would respectfully state that they have at length succeeded in procuring complete sets of English embroidery for their Corps, the quality of which has been acknowledged by gentlemen of the Corps of unquestionable taste and judgment, to be the richest and rarest workmanship of the kind ever offered to the public.

Sept. 26—

MILITARY LAW OF THE UNITED STATES,

SECOND EDITION.

THE above work was compiled by Col. TRUEMAN CROSS, of the U. S. army, and contains all the laws in relation to the Army, Marine Corps, Militia, and Volunteers, from 1774 to 1838. Orders for the work, addressed, post paid, to GEORGE TEMPLEMAN, the publisher, Washington City, will be promptly attended to.

Nov. 14—3m